



ALLEGANY COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

UTILITIES DIVISION

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Utilities Division Chief

June, 2009

Ref: Consumer Confidence Report

Dear Water Customer:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) require that water suppliers provide their customers with a Consumer Confidence Report addressing water quality issues.

Since the Allegany County Department of Public Works purchases water from the City of Keyser, West Virginia, we are attaching for your information the City of Keyser's 2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. If you have any questions concerning this information, you may contact the Allegany Department of Public Works – Utilities Division at 301-777-5942, Ext. 213 or the City of Keyser Water System at 304-788-3913.

Our water resources are not unlimited – they are affected everyday by precipitation, population growth, economic development and pollution. The most cost-effective way to protect your water resources is through conservation.

We have included a handout with information on water infrastructure for current and future generations of users.

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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2008

City of Keyser
111 N. Davis St.
PWSID 3302915
January 12 , 2009

Why am I receiving this report?

In compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments, the City of Keyser Water System is providing its customers with this annual water quality report. This report explains where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The information in this report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2008 or earlier if not on a yearly schedule.

If you have any questions concerning this report, you may contact William F. Keister at (304) 788-3913.

If you have any further questions, comments or suggestions, please attend any of our regularly scheduled water board meetings held on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 3:30 PM in the City Hall Council Chamber, 111 N. Davis Street, Keyser, WV.

Where does my water come from?

Your water source is surface water from New Creek. New Creek receives most of its water from Dam Site 14 in Grant County. Also, there are seven other control dams and various small streams that contribute water to New Creek.

Source Water Assessment

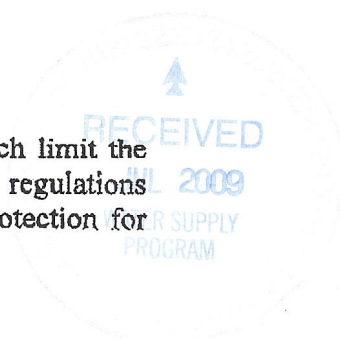
A Source Water Assessment was conducted in 2003 by the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health. (WVBPH). The intake that supplies drinking water to the City of Keyser has a higher susceptibility to contamination, due to the sensitive nature of surface water supplies and the potential contaminant sources identified within the area. This does not mean that this intake will become contaminated; only that conditions are such that the surface water could be impacted by a potential contaminant source. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. The source water assessment report which contains more information is available for review or a copy will be provided to you at our office during business hours or from the WVBPH 304-558-2981.

Why must water be treated?

All drinking water contains various amounts and kinds of contaminants. Federal and state regulations establish limits, controls, and treatment practices to minimize these contaminants and to reduce any subsequent health effects.

Contaminants in Water

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits of contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.



Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The source of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring, or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

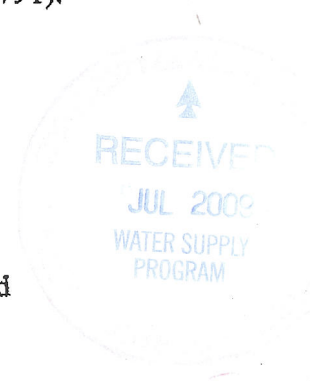
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Water Quality Data Table

Definitions of terms and abbreviations used in the table or report:

All other water test results for the reporting year 2008 were all non-detects.

Turbidity- The measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor this because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtering system.



MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level, or the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technique.

MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal, or the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect benefits of use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, or the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

AL - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

TT - Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Abbreviations that may be found in the table:

ppm - parts per million or milligrams per liter

ppb - parts per billion or micrograms per liter

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in water

pCi/l - picocuries per liter

NE - not established

N/A - not applicable

Ya - yearly average

The City of Keyser Water routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The tables below show the results of our monitoring for contaminants.

Table of Test Results - Regulated Contaminants -

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity	N	<0.3 100% mo. Samples <3	NTU	0	TT	Soil runoff
Total organic carbon	N	1.6	ppm	NA	TT	Naturally present in the environment

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Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper *	N	0.133	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	1.00	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from aluminum and fertilizer plants
Lead *	N	12	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	0.65	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Chlorine	N	0.6 (Ya) (0.3-0.8)	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	Water additive used to control microbes
Halocetic acids (HAACS)	N	50.0 (Ya) (16.6-85.0)	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N	49.0(Ya) (22.5-80.6)	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Alpha	N	0.9	pCi/l	NA	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (226 & 228)	N	0.1	pCi/l	NA	5	Erosion of natural deposits

* Copper and lead samples were collected from 20 area residences on July 19, 2007. Only the 90th percentile is reported. None of the samples collected exceeded the MCL.

Table of Test Results - Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Sodium	N	11.8	ppm	NE	20	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	N	21.2	ppm	250	250	Erosion of natural deposits

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE CITY OF KEYSER WATER SYSTEM MET ALL FEDERAL AND STATE WATER STANDARDS FOR THE REPORTING YEAR 2008.

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